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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICA N.V. [BE/BE]; Tum-houtseweg 30, B-2340 Beerse (BE).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): STECKLER, Thomas, Horst, Wolfgang [DE/BE]; c/o Janssen Pharmaceutica N.V., Turnhoutseweg 30, B-2340 Beerse (BE). JANSSENS, Frans, Eduard [BE/BE]; c/o Janssen Pharmaceutica N.V., Turnhoutseweg 30, B-2340 Beerse (BE). LEENAERTS, Joseph, Elisabeth [BE/BE]; c/o Janssen Pharmaceutica N.V., Turnhoutseweg 30, B-2340 Beerse (BE). FERNÁNDEZ-GADEA, Francisco, Javier [ES/ES]; c/o Janssen Cilag S.A., Edificio Johnson & Johnson, Paseo de las Doce Estrellas, 5-7, Campo de las Naciones, E-28042 Madrid (ES). GÓMEZ-SÁNCHEZ, Antonio [ES/ES]; c/o Janssen Cilag S.A., Edificio Johnson & Johnson, Paseo de las Doce Estrellas, 5-7, Campo de las Naciones, E-28042 Madrid (ES). MEERT, Theo, Frans [BE/BE]; c/o Janssen Pharmaceutica N.V., Turnhoutseweg 30, B-2340 Beerse (BE).

(74) Common Representative: JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICA N.V.; Turnhoutseweg 30, B-2340 Beerse (BE).

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(54) Title: SUBSTITUTED 4-PHENYL-4-'1H-IMIDAZOL-2-YL !-PIPERIDINE DERIVATIVES AND THEIR USE AS SELECTIVE NON-PEPTIDE DELTA OPIOID AGONISTS WITH ANTIDEPRESSANT AND ANXIOLYTIC ACTIVITY

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to the use of 4-phenyl-4-[1H-imidazol-2-yl]-piperidine derivatives according to Formula (I) the pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base addition salts thereof, the stereochemically isomeric forms thereof, the tautomeric forms thereof and the N-oxide forms thereof as selective non-peptide δ-opioid agonists for use in the prevention and/or treatment of various central nervous system disorders, in particular as selective antidepressant and anxiolytic non-peptide δ-opioid agonists. In particular are claimed compounds according to Formula (I) in which A=B is C=O or SO₂, X is a covalent bond, R¹ is alkyloxy, alkyloxyalkyl, Ar or

NR⁹R¹⁰, wherein R⁹ and R¹⁰ each independently are hydrogen or Ar; or A=B and R¹ together form a benzoxazolyl radical; p is zero, R³ is benzyl optionally substituted with hydroxy, alkyl or alkyloxycarbonyl and R⁴ and R⁵ each are hydrogen.

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